

DEPARTMENT REPORT

JULY, 2016

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

The Health Director reviewed the Health Department's budget with the Lincoln City Council on July 12, 2016. The City Council will formally vote on the budget on August 10, 2016 and will vote on the levy on August 22, 2016.

The Health Director and Division Managers met with Lincoln's new Fire and Rescue Chief Mike Despain, and LFR Command Staff regarding shared areas of interest between the Departments.

The Health Director attended the Community Health Endowment Funding Committee Meeting.

The Health Director attended the Lutheran Family Services Health 360 Ribbon Cutting and Open House.

Staff continue to work on final preparation of documents for submission to the Public Health Accreditation Board for accreditation.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal Control Stats

	Sep 13- Jun 14	Sep 14- Jun 15	Sep 15- Jun 16
Pet Licenses Sold	52179	52739	53929
Cases Dispatched	20112	19426	20029
Investigation	21670	21057	22588
Animals Impounded			
Dogs	1283	1178	1193
Cats	1000	1048	1158
Court Citations Issued	335	315	409
Warnings/Defects Issued	14168	13080	13546
Bite Cases Reported	373	397	458
Attack Cases Reported	45	48	38
Dogs Declared Pot. Dangerous	64	60	90
Dangerous Dogs	10	20	23

Animal Neglect Investigations	597	523	590
Injured Animal Rescue	607	774	745
Wildlife Removal	347	442	493
Dead Animal Pickup	1541	1673	1758
 Lost and Found Reports	 1833	 2463	 1872
Phone Calls	37366	38094	42091
Average Response Time (in mins)	19	22	20

Animal Control staff are been responding to an increased number of dog bite cases. There has also been an increase from previous years for Dangerous Dog declarations. More citations and defects have been written. There have been increased calls to Animal Control from the public and more calls are being dispatched.

Staff are attempting to talk to pet owners to impress on them the importance of keeping their dogs on leash and under control. More education is needed and we direct people to our website for pet licensing (new and renewals), education 30 second PSAs, information on vaccinations and about all other animal domestic and wildlife issues that might arise.

The Animal Control Manager spoke at the Capital City Kiwanis club on July 26th. About 30 members were in attendance. They asked staff to talk about all domestic and wildlife issues, what we do day to day and the services we provide. They had many questions and comments and expressed their gratitude for what the staff do.

Staff from Animal Control, the Capital Humane Society and from Lincoln Children's Zoo will participate in a training and in service on zoonotic diseases on July 28th. Dustin Loy, DVM, Assistant Professor, Veterinary Diagnostic Microbiology and Tim Timmons, Communicable Disease Coordinator, LLCHD will be the presenters. We are pleased to have UNL partner with all of us and help out with this in service training session.

COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICES

Referrals of New Families

In an effort to increase the number of families referred to our Healthy Families Home Visiting Program, a targeted marketing campaign, featuring new marketing tools, was developed by our leadership staff, home visitors and Advisory Committee. Our home visitation program is accredited by Healthy Families America/Prevent Child Abuse America. This evidence-based model includes a two phase assessment to identify overburdened families who are at high-risk for child abuse/neglect. If families are found to be at high-risk, they are invited to voluntarily participate in our intensive home visiting program. There is no cost to the family to participate. Our program's proudest achievement is a very low rate of substantiated child maltreatment among the families we serve (1.5%) compared to the average among all home visiting programs in our state (4.8%).

The Healthy Families Home Visiting marketing plan focuses on two groups: potential families who would benefit from services (self-referrals) and health & human service agencies that could refer high-risk families. In the upcoming months, leaders and home visitors in the program will showcase our new marketing materials, and will review our positive outcomes, referral guidelines and the referral process during a personal meeting with agency partners, starting with the highest priority group first. Along with our partners, CEDARS Youth Services, we are formulating an approach to assure that families who could benefit from our program, know about and can access our services. We have been reviewing Place Matters data developed by our Department's Epidemiology Team for the Community Health Endowment of Lincoln to identify areas which have a concentration of poverty and bellwether crimes. Bellwether crimes include child abuse/neglect, domestic violence, protection orders and residential burglary. Deb Byrne, GIS Analyst for the Department, developed maps of the current caseload of our Healthy Families Home Visiting program and overlapped them with maps showing areas of poverty and bellwether crime. Indeed, our current caseload is concentrated in the same geographical areas of the County which have higher poverty and bellwether crime occurrence. Areas remain however, that show lower home visiting reach, although the area is moderately high in poverty and bellwether crime. It is important to note that child abuse and neglect happens in all geographical areas of our community. The enormous stress associated with poverty and crime however, can certainly impact one's ability to parent in a positive way.

DENTAL HEALTH & NUTRITION

WIC

Caseload (Participation)

Total	3897
Main	2979
Cornhusker Clinic	918
%Enrolled with Benefits	84.66%

	LLCHD	State of Nebraska
Total Women	953 (24.4%)	8620 (22.9%)
Total Children	2021 (51.8%)	19949 (53.2%)
Total Infants	923 (23.6%)	8919 (23.7%)
Infants Receiving Breastmilk	307 (33.3%)	2684 (30%)
Infants Exclusive Breastmilk	113 (12.2%)	1062(11.9%)

Mentoring:

(Number and school)

Students	
Interns	UNL Dietetic Interns-2
Volunteers	
LMEP Residents	

Our June caseload was 3897 participants. This was our highest number of participants for the month of June since 2011. Our current average is 3803 participants per month, which is an 8.5% increase from one year ago. We had an 11.6% increase in infants who were exclusively breastfed in the month of June.

Dental Health

Dental Clinical Services

- Total number of clients served (unduplicated count): 534
- Total number of patient encounters (duplicated client count): 761
- Total number of patient visits (duplicated provider appointments/visits): 1040
- Total number of Racial/Ethnic Minorities and White non-English speaking clients: 424 (79%)
- Total number of clients with language barriers/need interpreter: 284 (53%)
- Total number of children served: 349 (65%)
- Total number of clients enrolled in Medicaid: 392 (73%)
- Number of clients served during Thursday evening hours (unduplicated count): 65
- Number of patient encounters during Thursday evening hours (duplicated client count): 68
- Number of patient visits during Thursday evening hours (duplicated provider appointments/visits): 112
- Total number of Racial/Ethnic and White Non-English speaking patients: (%)
- Total number of clients with language barriers/need interpreter: 36 (55%)
- Number of children served during Thursday evening hours: 62 (95%)
- Number of patients enrolled in Medicaid during Thursday evening hours: 53 (82%)

Community Based Dental Outreach Activities

WIC Fluoride Varnish and Screening Program

- North WIC Office (27th & Cornhusker Highway): 20 children and parents
- LLCHD WIC Office: children and parent: 29 children and parents
- Educare: 87 Early Head Start children

Student Rotation Program

- UNMC Dental Hygiene Student rotations: 4
- Southeast Community College Dental Assisting Student: 1

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

West Nile Virus Surveillance / Vector Control

Goals (Purpose)

Protect human health by preventing the spread of West Nile Virus (WNV) by monitoring mosquito populations, responding to complaints, eliminating mosquito breeding sites, treating with larvicide, testing for WNV, and, rarely, spraying to kill adult mosquitoes.

Indicator

Resolve 90% of nuisance complaints on stagnant water or mosquitoes within 30 days. Maintain surveillance system to control outbreaks by reducing human West Nile Disease cases.



Strategies/Methods (What we do)

- educate public on WNV risk reduction
- investigate and resolve standing water and mosquito complaints
- trap, identify mosquitoes and submit Culex species for virus testing
- maintain pesticide applicator licenses for Health, Public Works and Parks staff
- coordinate spraying if needed

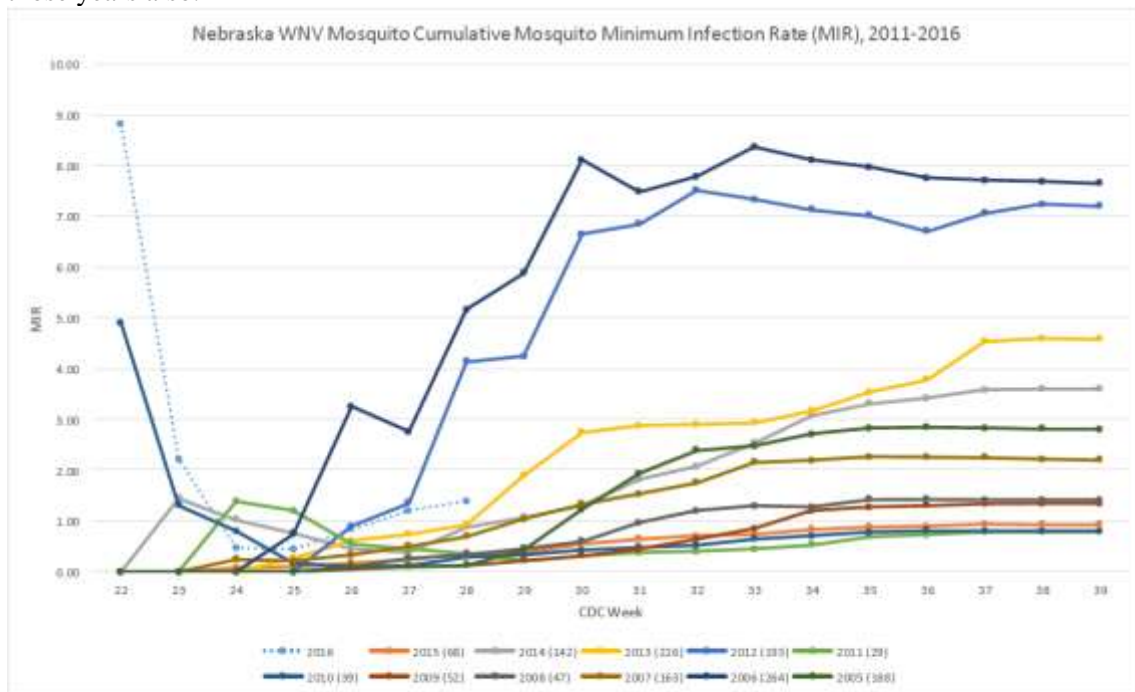
Funding/Source

Grants in Aid (100%)

Comparison

In calendar year 2015, 10 human cases of WN Disease were reported, (4 were neuroinvasive), compared to 7 in 2014, 14 in 2013, 16 in 2012, 1 in 2011, 3 in 2010, 1 in 2009, 5 in 2008, 12 in 2007, and 15 in 2006. Mosquito surveillance for WNV is shown in the chart below. So far in 2016, the current cumulative Minimum Infection Rate (MIR) is close to average. The two years with the highest statewide cumulative MIR were 2006 and 2012, followed by 2013. Lancaster County human cases were highest in

those years also.



Weekly Nebraska Statewide Cumulative Mosquito Minimum Infection Rate, 2005-2016. Note: 2016 data shown as dashed line. Numbers in parentheses next to years indicate the number of human WNV clinical cases reported that year.

Description

West Nile Virus has become an endemic disease in Lancaster County. Public education on reducing risk of contracting WNV is conducted and includes encouraging the use of insect repellants, wearing long sleeves and pants, and avoiding being out during dusk and dawn hours when mosquitoes that transmit WNV are most active. Health staff trap mosquitoes and send them to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services for identification and viral testing. The State Public Health Lab tests the mosquitoes for West Nile Virus. LLCHD assures that pesticide applicator licenses are maintained for Health, Public Works and Parks staff so that the community can respond if a WNV epidemic is predicted. Health would coordinate any community-wide mosquito spraying in an epidemic situation. In FY15 grant funds covered direct program costs of monitoring mosquitoes. In addition, Lincoln Municipal Code prohibits stagnant water on any property. The Health Department is required to investigate and resolve standing water and mosquito nuisance conditions.

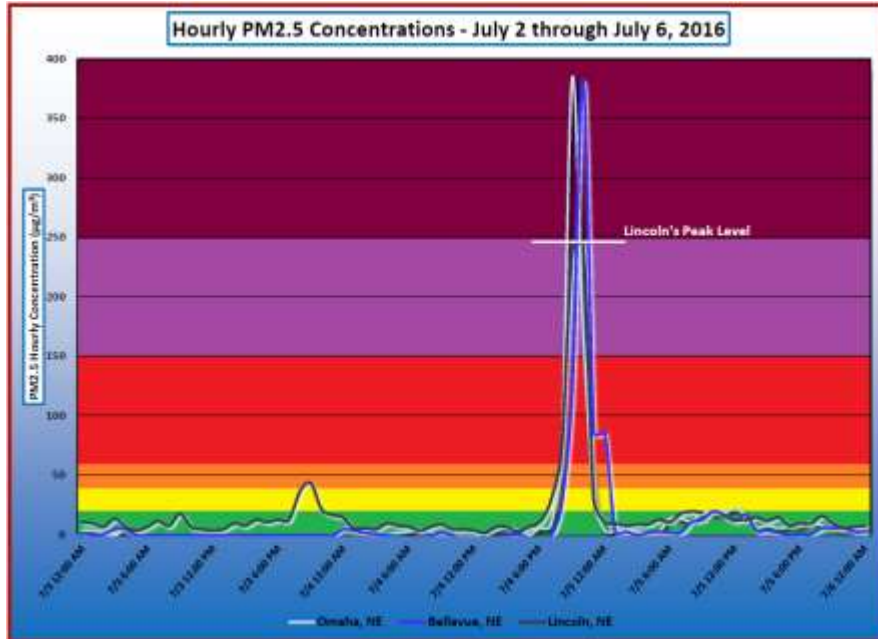
Partnerships & Efficiencies

Collaboration with PWU and Parks assures spraying for adult mosquitoes can be performed if necessary in outbreak conditions. Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services does the mosquito identification and the Public Health Lab does all virus testing at no cost to the City or County.

Fireworks Impact Air Quality

While fireworks bring enjoyment to many, one unintended consequence is the increase in fine particulate air pollution. Fine particulate matter is so small that it can get deep into the lungs, enter the blood stream, and cause serious health problems. Exposure to high levels of particulate, even for a few hours, can

aggravate lung disease, cause asthma attacks and acute bronchitis, and cause angina, heart attacks, and arrhythmias.

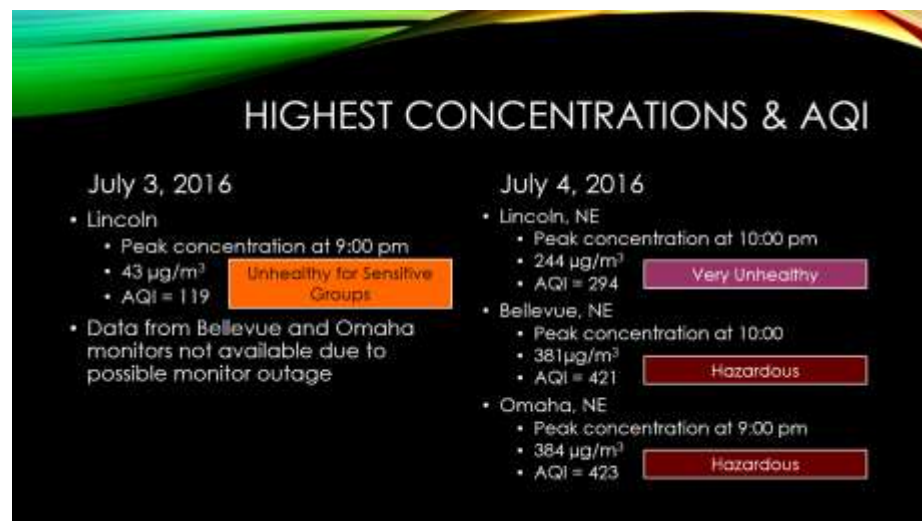


LLCHD continuously monitors our air for fine particulate matter, technically known as PM 2.5. The Health Director issues a Health Advisory prior to July 4th, warning of the anticipated increased levels of fine particulate pollution associated with the extensive use of fireworks. The graph below displays the fine particulate levels measured in Lincoln for July 3rd through July 5th in 2016. The levels recorded were almost double the highest levels recorded in 2013 and 2014, and about 70 ug/m3 higher

than in 2015.

Relative to the Air Quality Index (AQI), levels in the purple portion of the chart is categorized as “Very Unhealthy” for all people. “Very Unhealthy” means that everyone may experience more serious health effects. Thus, for several hours, the levels of particulate in the air caused by fireworks were high enough to significantly impact people’s health in

Lancaster County. In the Omaha area, conditions were even worse, with peaks in the “Hazardous” level. The EPA’s Air Quality Index defines Hazardous as levels which should trigger health warnings of emergency conditions. The entire population is even more likely to be affected by serious health effects.



HEALTH PROMOTION & OUTREACH

National Bike Challenge Update

Currently, Nebraska is in 3rd place behind Wisconsin and Colorado. Lincoln is in **1st place** but only by 20,000 miles. (Madison, WI is on our heels trying to reclaim their top spot from last year.) Any miles that a person rides on a bike (for recreation or commuting to work) all count! (Stationary bike miles don't count though.)

Here's the info about the National Bike Challenge which goes through September 30th:

- Sign up at www.nationalbikechallenge.org
- Create an account with your email address. Log your miles manually or sync with one of the three apps: Strava, MapMyRide or Endomondo. As you log your miles and earn points, you can see where you stack up on the leaderboards with other participants across the country.
- When you create your account, you can choose to join a workplace. The City of Lincoln workplace name is "**City of Lincoln NE Employees**".

Ebola Full Scale Exercise – July 12, 2016

The purpose of this exercise was to practice the coordination and communication activities in an Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) scenario involving two patients among Hospital Infection Control Professionals, Hospital Emergency Preparedness Coordinators, Local/State Public Health Agencies, and Healthcare Coalition members.

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department participated in the EBOLA Hospital Activation Full Scale Exercise (FSE) on July 12, 2016 with all of its partners that tested the capabilities of emergency operations coordination, information sharing, medical surge and responder safety and health during an infectious disease outbreak. Overall the exercise went very well. There was great communication and interaction between participating facilities and organizations on a variety of topics throughout the exercise. The exercise had 73 people in attendance that represented 16 different organizations (Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR), Nebraska Emergency Management Agency, Nebraska Public Health Laboratory, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department, CHI Health Saint Elizabeth Lincoln-Lancaster County Emergency Management Agency, Lincoln Fire and Rescue Bryan Medical Center, Midwest Medical Transport Company, EMS Innovations 10/11 News-Lincoln, KETV Channel 7-Omaha, KLKN TV Channel 8, Lincoln Journal Star and NET-Lincoln) throughout Lancaster County. The exercise allowed participants to voice their strengths and gain ideas and solutions from community partners who are vested in preparedness throughout Lancaster County.

INFORMATION & FISCAL MANAGEMENT

Three long-time employees in the Information and Fiscal Management Division will be retiring in the next fiscal year. Both sections are working to prepare for the impact of the retirements and manage the transition.

The Division Manager has completed documentation of Domain 11 – Maintain Administrative and Management Capacity.